

CS 4530: Fundamentals of Software Engineering

Module 7: React

Adeel Bhutta, Jan Vitek and Mitch Wand
Khoury College of Computer Sciences

Learning Objectives for this Lesson

- By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:
 - Understand how the React framework binds data (and changes to it) to a UI
 - Create simple React components that use state and properties
 - Be able to map the three core steps of a test (construct, act, check) to UI component testing

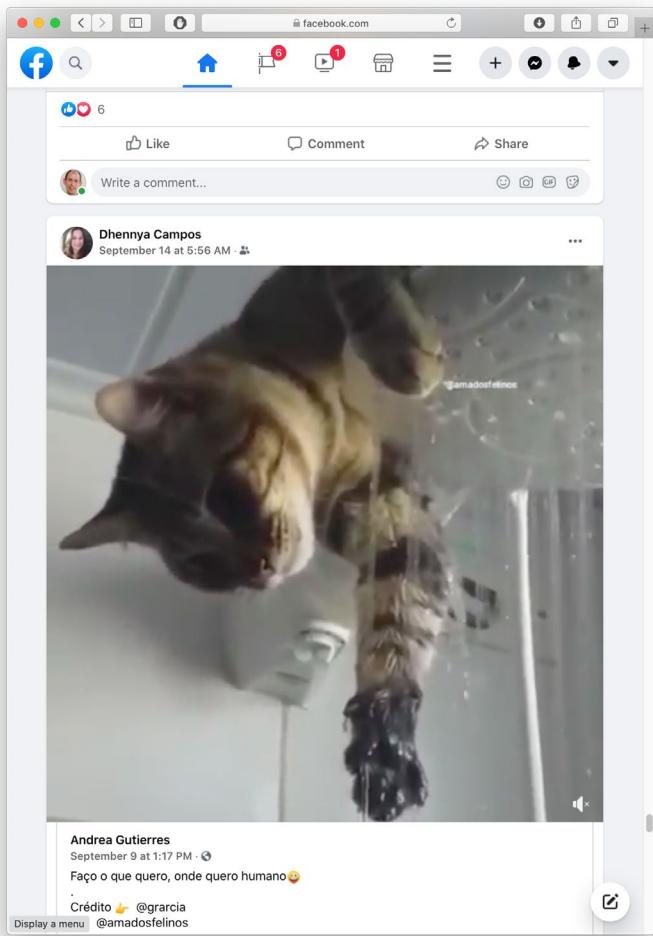
HTML: The Markup Language of the Web

- Language for describing structure of a document
- Denotes hierarchy of elements
- What might be elements in this document?



Rich, interactive web apps

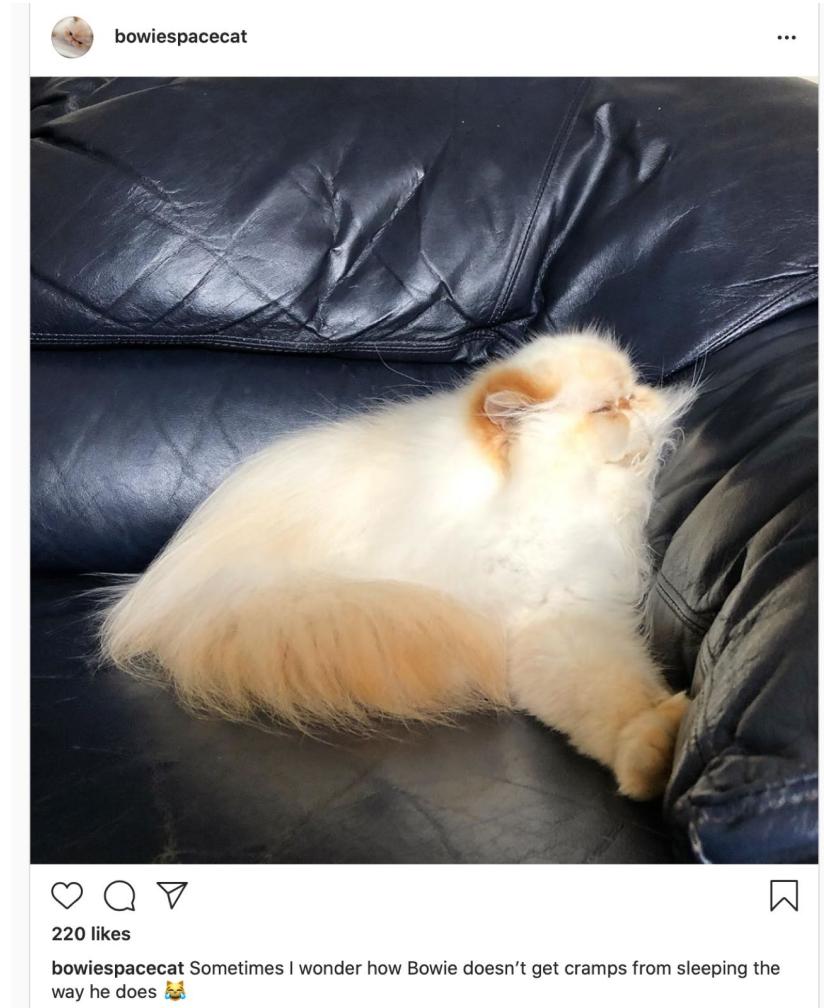
- Infinite scrolling of cats



Typical properties of web app Uis

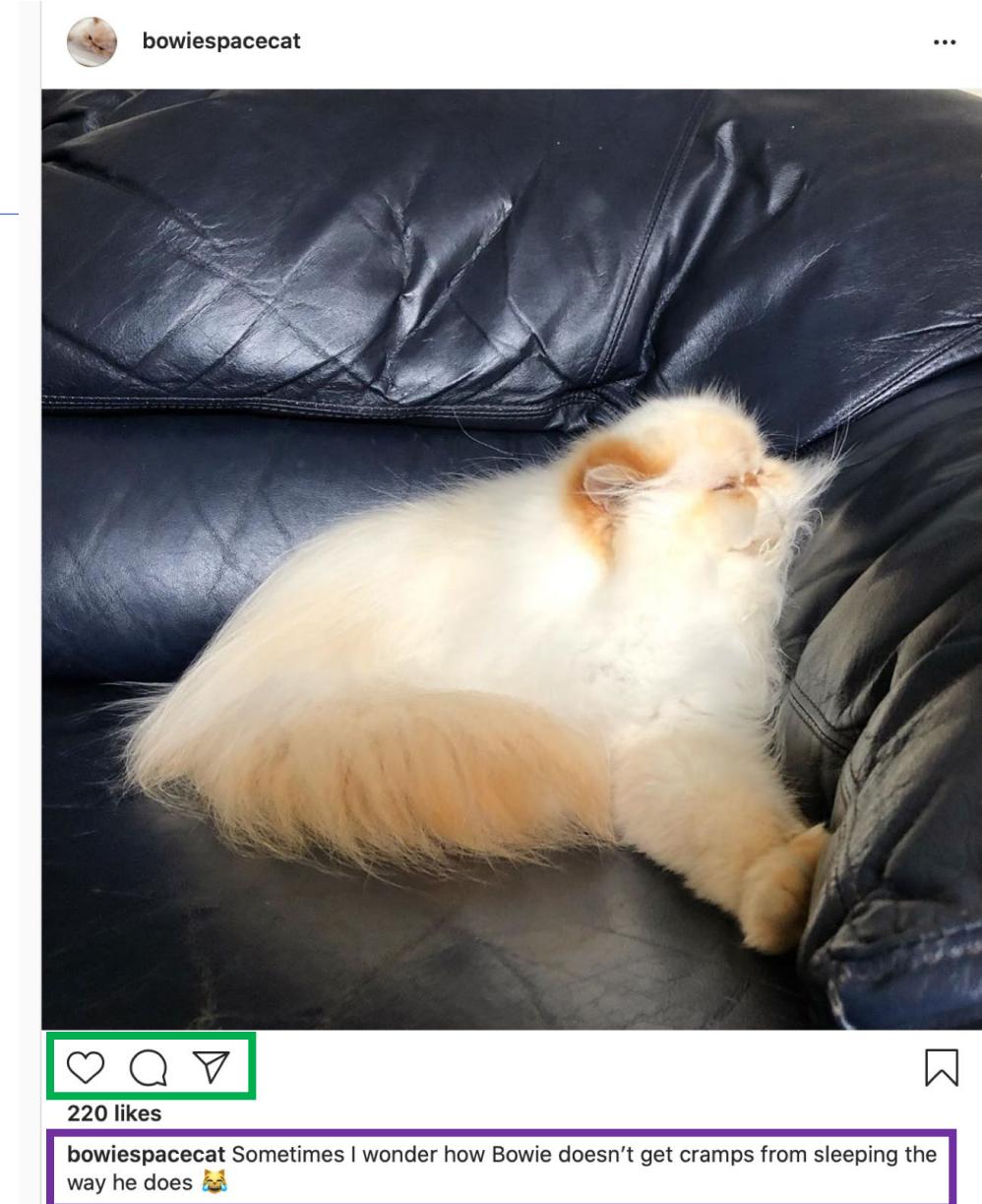
Building abstractions for web app development?

- Each widget has both visual presentation & logic
 - e.g., clicking on like button executes some logic related to the containing widget
 - Logic and presentation of individual widget strongly related, loosely related to other widgets
- Some widgets occur more than once
 - e.g., comment/like widgets
- Changes to data should cause changes to widget
 - e.g., new images, new comments should show up in real time



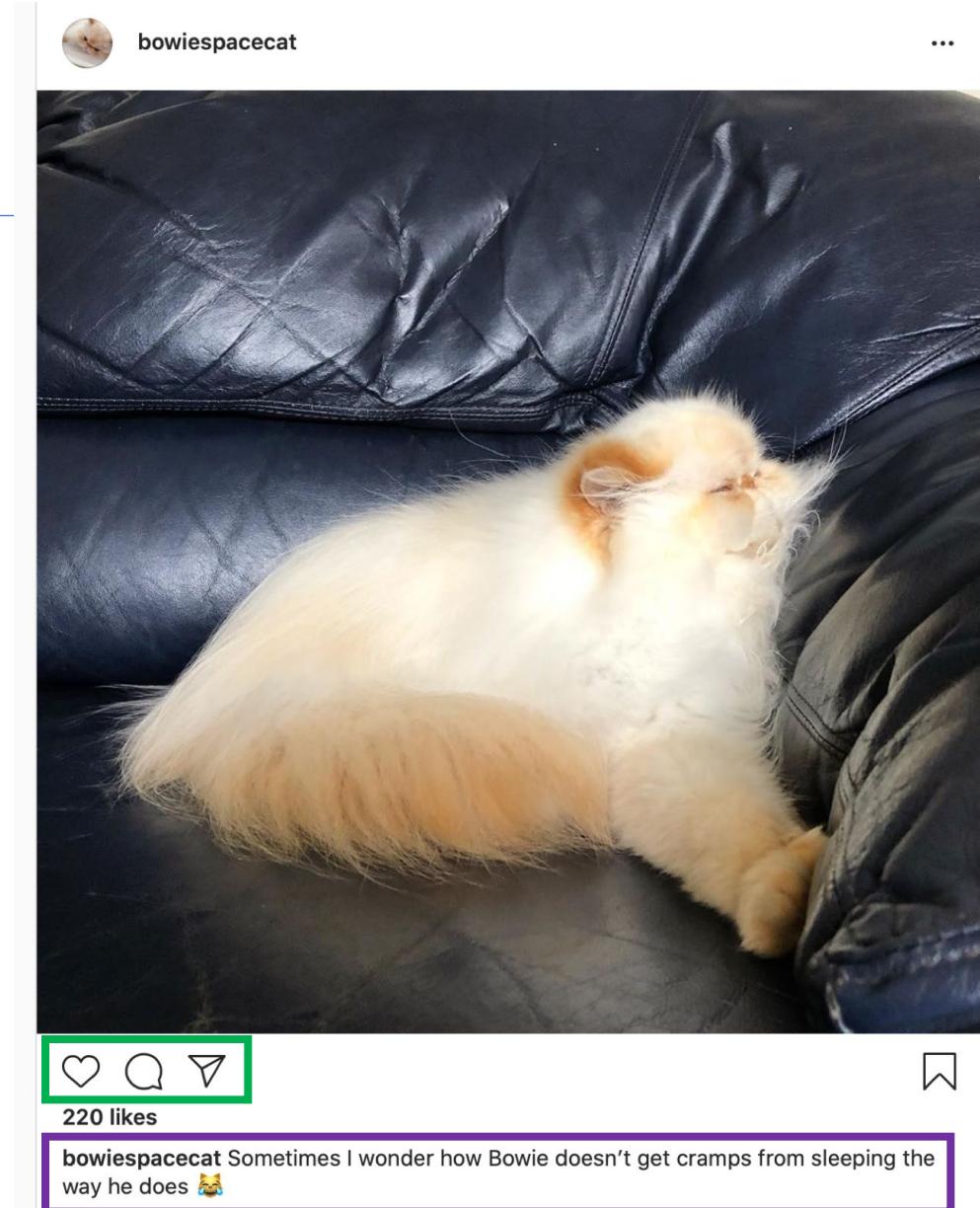
Key Idea: Components

- Web pages are complex, with lots of logic and presentation
- How can we organize web page to maximize modularity?
- Solution: Components - Easy to repeat, cohesive pieces of code (hopefully with low coupling)



Components

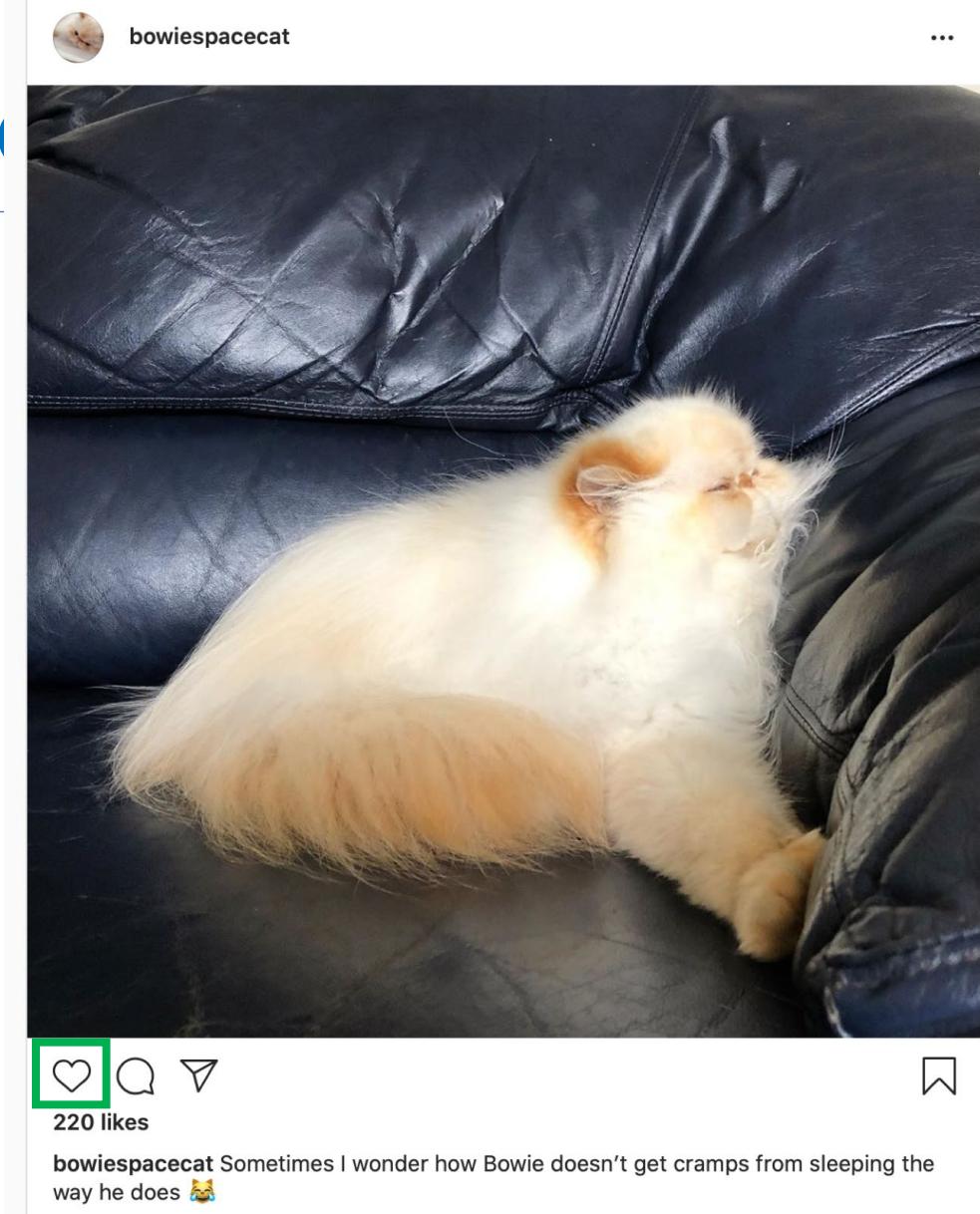
- Organize related logic and presentation into a single unit
 - Includes necessary state and the logic for updating this state
 - Includes presentation for rendering this state into HTML
- Synchronizes state and visual presentation
 - Whenever state changes, HTML should be rendered again



Components

Example: Like button component

- What does the button keep track of?
 - Is it liked or not
 - What post this is associated with
- What logic does the button have?
 - When changing like status, send update to server
- How does the button look?
 - Filled in if liked, hollow if not



Server side vs. client side

- Where should template/component be instantiated?
- Server-side frameworks: Template instantiated on server
 - Examples: JSP, ColdFusion, PHP, ASP.NET
 - Logic executes on server, generating HTML that is served to browser
- Front-end framework: Template runs in web browser
 - Examples: React, Angular, Meteor, Ember, Aurelia, ...
 - Server passes template to browser; browser generates HTML on demand

Expressing Logic

- Templates/components require combining logic with HTML
 - Conditionals - only display presentation if some expression is true
 - Loops - repeat this template once for every item in collection
- How should this be expressed?
 - Embed code in HTML (ColdFusion, JSP, Angular)
 - Embed HTML in code (React)

Embedding Code in HTML

- Template takes the form of an HTML file, with extensions
 - Popular for server-side frameworks
 - Uses another language (e.g., Java, C) or custom language to express logic
 - Found in frameworks such as PHP, Angular, ColdFusion, ASP (NOT React)
 - Can't type check anything

```
<html>
<head><title>First JSP</title></head>
<body>
<%
    double num = Math.random();
    if (num > 0.95) {
%>
    <h2>You'll have a luck day!</h2><p>(<%= num %>)</p>
<%
    } else {
%>
    <h2>Well, life goes on ... </h2><p>(<%= num %>)</p>
<%
    }
%>
```

Embedding HTML in TypeScript

Aka JSX or TSX

- How do you embed HTML in TypeScript and get syntax checking?
- Idea: extend the language: JSX, TSX
 - JavaScript (or TypeScript) language, with additional feature that expressions may be HTML
- It's a new language
 - Browsers do not natively run JSX (or TypeScript)
 - We use build tools that compile everything into JavaScript

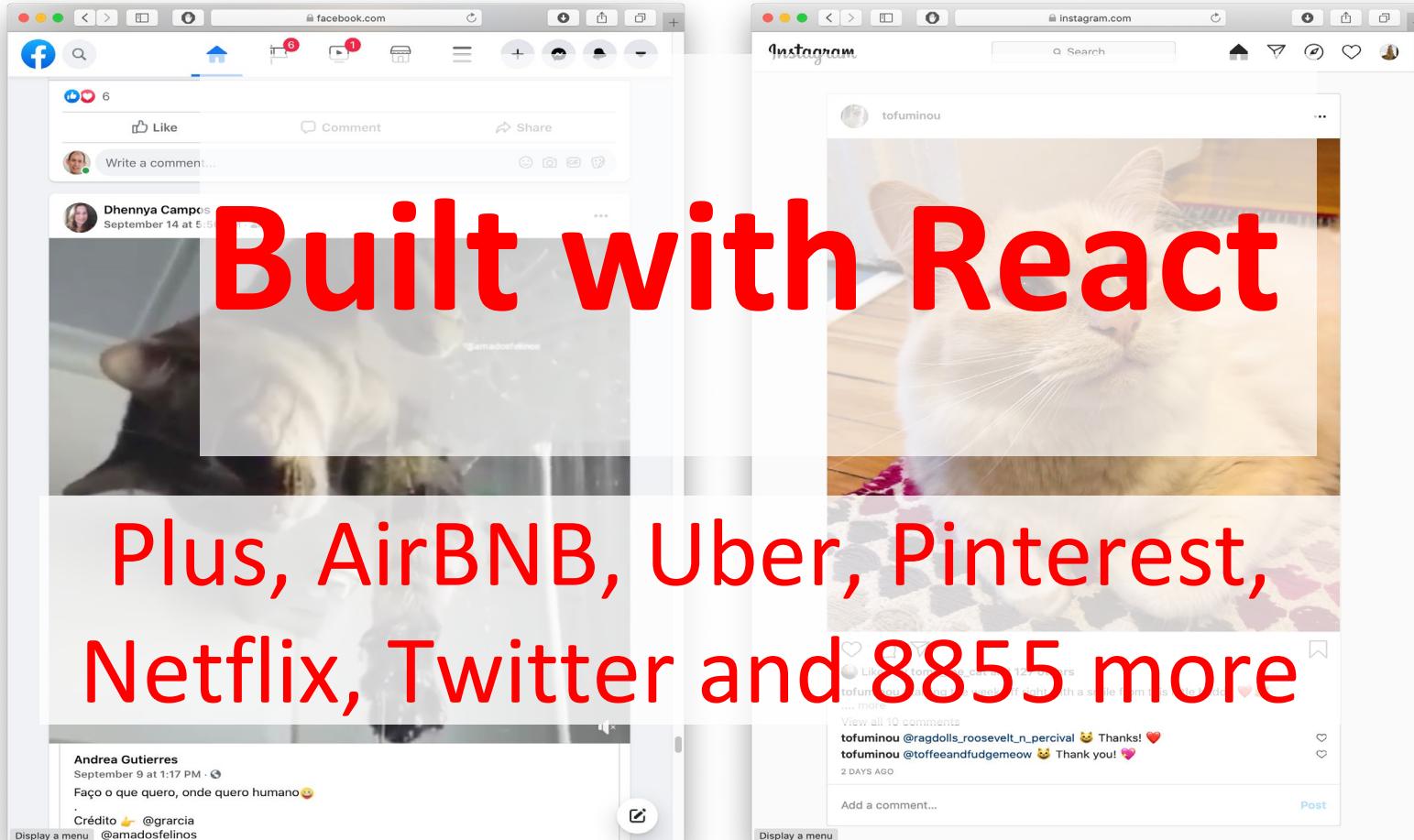
```
export function HelloMessage(props: IProps) {  
  return (  
    <div>  
      Hello, {props.name}  
    </div>  
  )  
}  
  
ReactDOM.render(  
  <React.StrictMode>  
    <HelloMessage name='Satya' />  
  </React.StrictMode>,  
  document.getElementById('root')  
);
```

React: Front End Framework for Components

- Created by Facebook
- Powerful abstractions for describing frontend UI components
- Official documentation & tutorials:
<https://reactjs.org/>
- Key concepts:
 - Embed HTML in TypeScript
 - Track application “state”
 - Automatically and efficiently re-render page in browser based on changes to state

Rich, interactive web apps

Infinite scrolling of cats



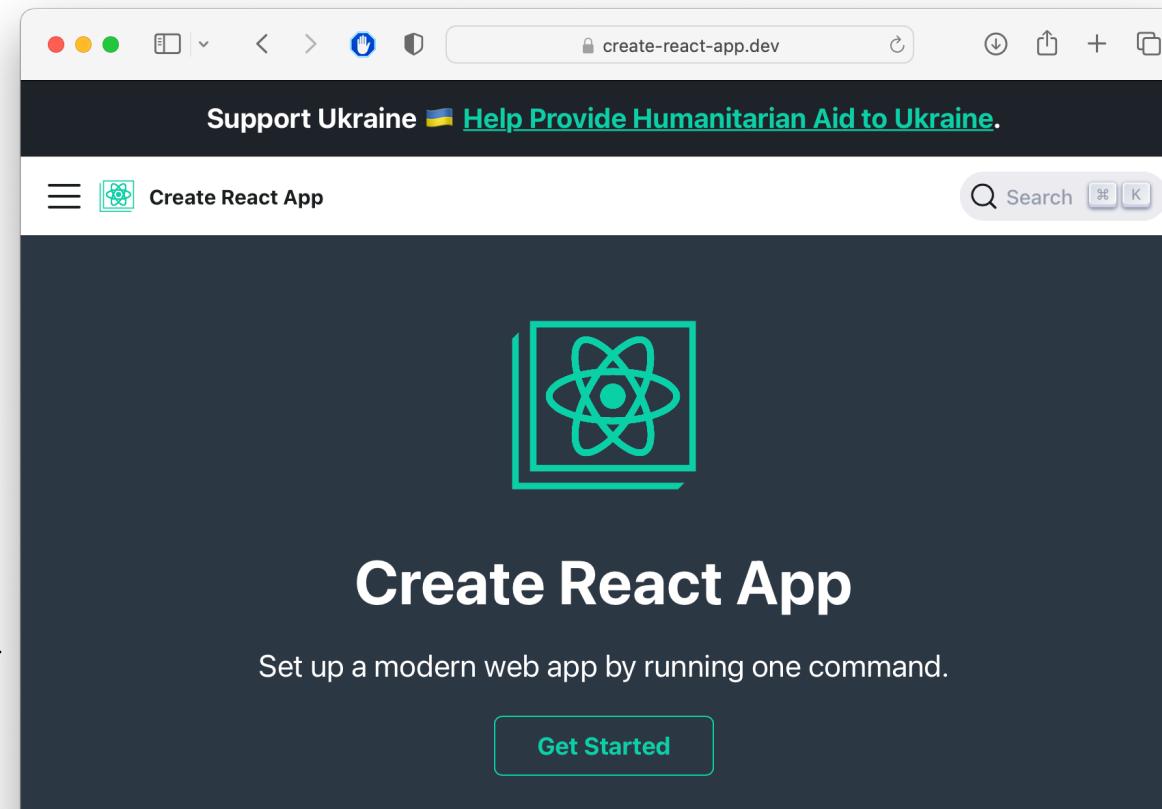
Embedding HTML in TypeScript

```
return <div>Hello {someVariable}</div>;
```

- HTML embedded in TypeScript
 - HTML can be used as an expression
 - HTML is checked for correct syntax
- Can use { expr } to evaluate an expression and return a value
 - e.g., { 5 + 2 }, { foo() }
- To wrap on multiple lines, wrap the TSX in (parentheses)
- Output of expression is HTML

Creating New React Applications

- React applications must be “transpiled” into a format that browsers can understand
- “Create React App” is a set of scripts to automate this all
- **Get started:** `npx create-react-app my-app --template typescript`
- **Implement in App.tsx, run** `npm start` to run in web browser



Hello World in React

```
export function HelloMessage() {  
  return <div>Hello, World!</div>  
}
```

“Declare a Hello component”

Declares a new component
that can be rendered by React

“Return the following HTML whenever the
component is rendered”

The HTML is dynamically
generated by the library.

```
function App() {  
  return <HelloMessage />  
}
```

“Render a Hello Component”

Components are rendered as if they were
HTML tags

You may see “Class” components, too – but we won’t write them

```
var HelloMessage = React.createClass({  
  render: function() {  
    return <div>Hello, World!</div>  
  }  
})
```

Hello World, Circa 2016
(Before the “Class” keyword!)

```
class HelloMessage extends React.Component {  
  render() {  
    return <div>Hello, World!</div>  
  }  
}
```

Hello World, Circa 2020
(Defined as a Class)

```
export function HelloMessage() {  
  return <div>Hello, World!</div>  
}
```

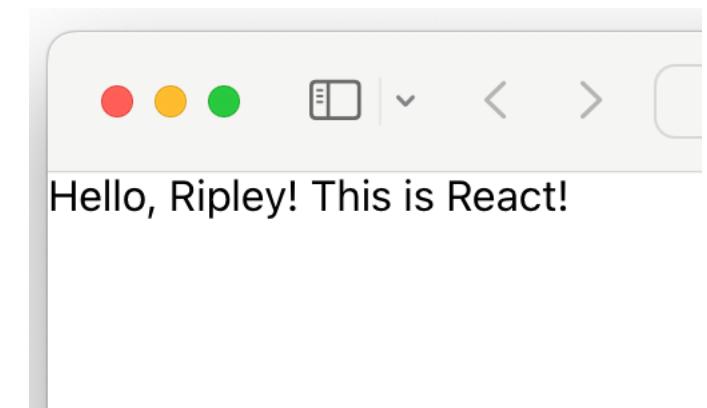
Hello World, Circa 2022
(Defined as a function)

React Components Can Receive Properties

- Properties are passed in an argument to the component
- Properties are specified as attributes when the component is instantiated
- Properties can *not* be changed by the component
- Reminder: inside of HTML code, execute TypeScript code using {mustaches}

```
export function PersonalizedHello(props: { name: string }) {
  return <div>Hello, {props.name}! This is React!</div>
}

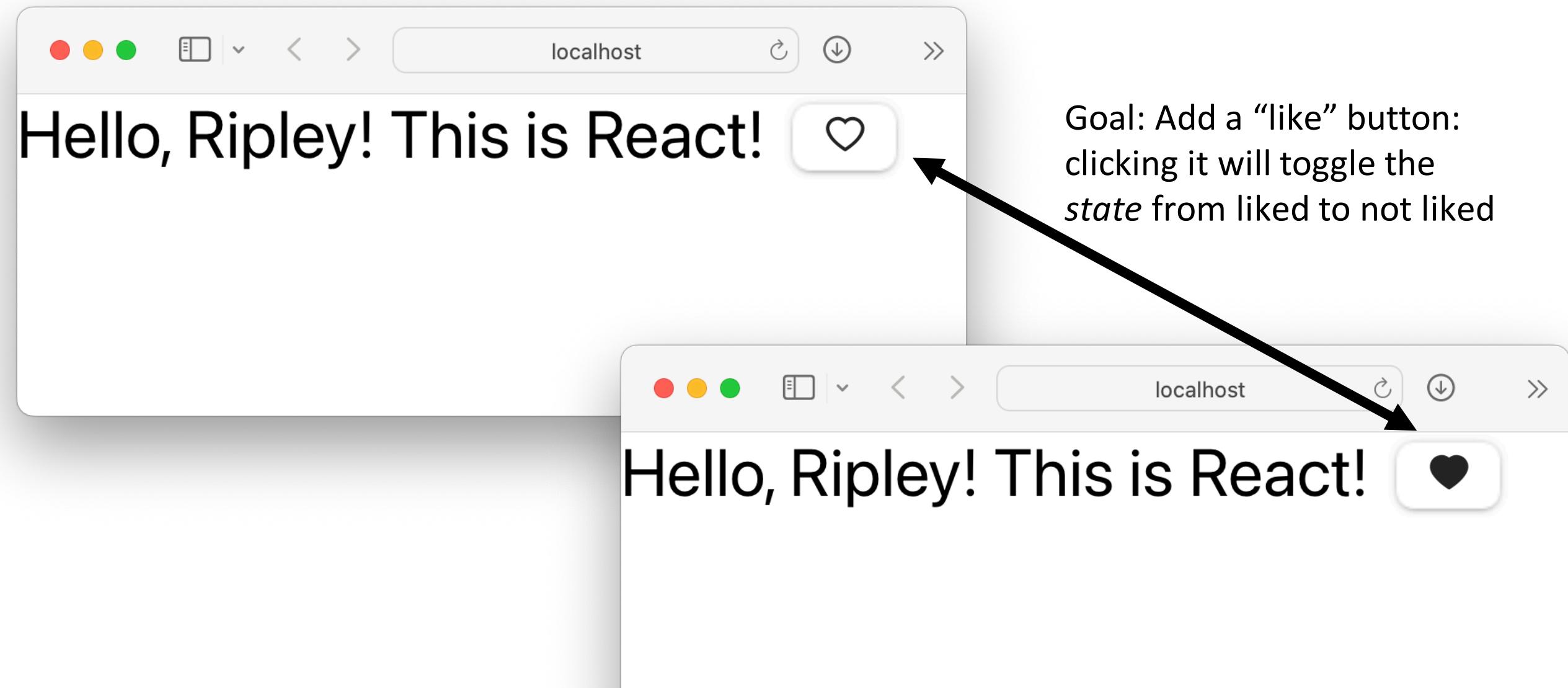
<PersonalizedHello name="Ripley" />
```



Component State is Data That Changes

- All internal component data that, when changed, should trigger UI update
 - Stored as state variables in the component
 - Created using `useState<stateType>(defaultValue)`
 - E.g. `const [isLiked, setIsLiked] = useState(false);`
 - Import `useState` from React
 - The only way to change the value of a state variable is with the setter
 - You *could* choose any names for the variable and its setter; for this class, please follow the convention of `const [goodVariableName, setGoodVariableName]`

React State Example: “Like” Button

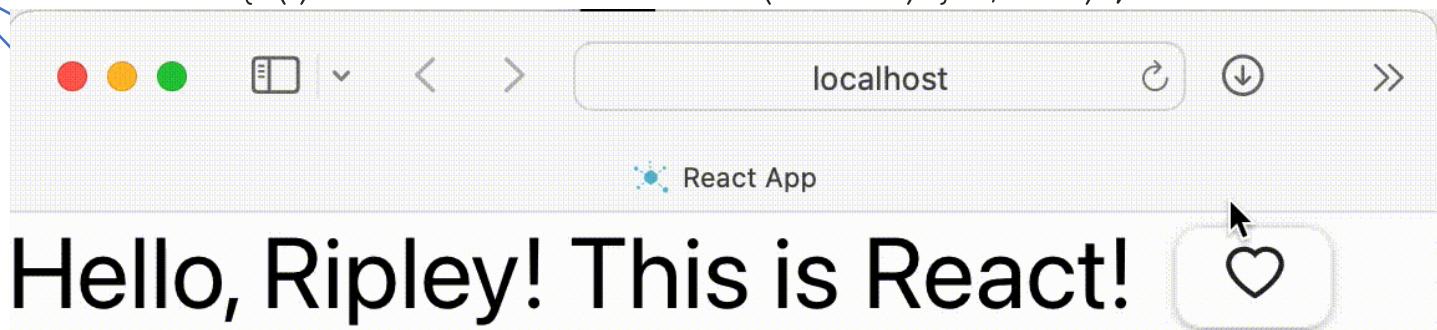


React State Example: “Like” Button

Create a state variable called `isLiked`, and a *state setter*, defaulting to `false`

```
function PersonalizedLikableHello(props: { name: string }) {
  const [isLiked, setIsLiked] = useState(false);
  let likeButton;
  if (isLiked) {
    likeButton = (<IconButton aria-label="unlike"
      icon={<AiFillHeart />} onClick={() => setIsLiked(false)} /> );
  } else {
    likeButton = (<IconButton aria-label="like"
      icon={<AiOutlineHeart />} onClick={() => setIsLiked(true)} /> );
  }
  return (
    <div>
      Hello, {props.name}! This is
    </div>
  );
}
```

Depending on the state, show a filled-in or outlined button



Sidebar: React Has a Rich Component Library

chakra

Getting Started

Styled System

Components

Hooks

Community

Changelog

Blog

LAYOUT

Aspect Ratio

Box

Center

Container

Flex

Grid

Grid

Flex

Feedback

Feedback

Search the docs

v2.2.9

Install UI libraries from NPM just like any other kind of module, e.g.
npm install --save @chakra-ui/react

Components

Chakra UI provides prebuild components to help you build your projects faster. Here is an overview of the component categories:

Disclosure

The screenshot shows the Chakra UI Components documentation page. On the left sidebar, there are links for 'Components' and several layout-related components like 'Accordion', 'Tabs', and 'Visual'. The main content area has a search bar at the top. Below it, there's a heading 'Components' followed by a paragraph about the prebuilt components. Under 'Disclosure', there are three cards: 'Accordion' (showing a list of items with expandable sections), 'Tabs' (showing a horizontal tab navigation), and 'Visual' (showing an example of an avatar with a badge). To the right, there's a yellow callout box with text about installing UI libraries from NPM. At the bottom, there's an 'EDITABLE EXAMPLE' section with code snippets for creating an 'Avatar' with a 'Badge'.

```
<Stack direction='row' spacing={4}>
  <Avatar>
    <AvatarBadge boxSize='1.25em' bg='green.500' />
  </Avatar>
  /* You can also change the borderColor and bg of the badge */
  <Avatar>
    <AvatarBadge borderColor='papayawhip' bg='tomato' boxSize='1.25em' />
  </Avatar>
</Stack>
```

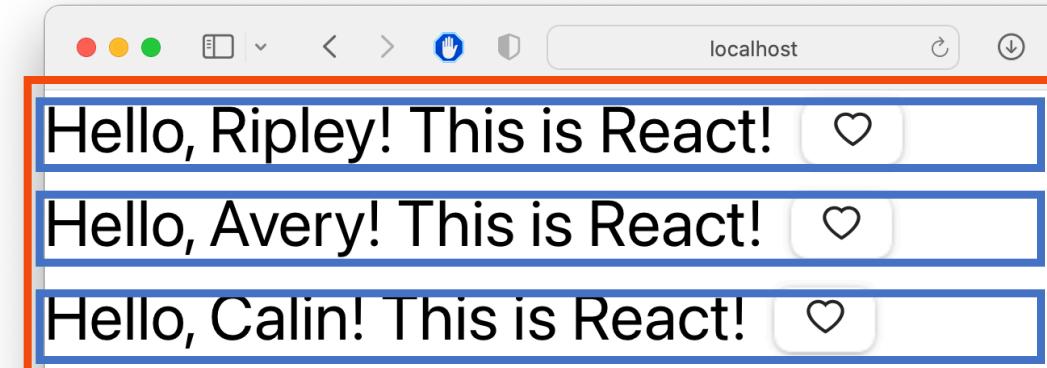
COPY

Nest Components, Passing State as Properties

- A common pattern in React is to store state in one component, and nest others in it, passing properties
- Example: Creating multiple PersonalizedHello's:

```
export function MultiHellos() {  
  const [names, setNames] = useState(["Ripley", "Avery", "Calin"]);  
  return (  
    <div>  
      {names.map((eachName) => (  
        <PersonalizedLikableHello name={eachName} />  
      ))}  
    </div>  
  );  
}
```

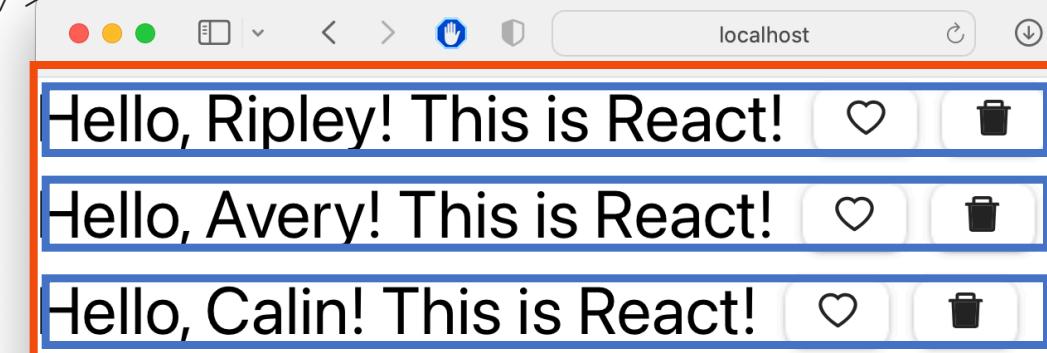
- Problem: How to add “delete” buttons?



Nest Components, Passing State (and setter) as Properties

- Add a “delete” button inside of each Hello Message
- What should the delete button do? The state with the list of names is stored in the **MultiHellos** component
- Solution: Pass an “onDelete” handler to each

```
export function MultiHellos() {  
  const [names, setNames] = useState(["Ripley", "Avery", "Calin"]);  
  return (<div>  
    {names.map((eachName) => (  
      <PersonalizedLikableDeletableHello name={eachName}  
        onDelete={()=> setNames(names.filter(  
          filteredName => filteredName !== eachName))}/>  
    ))}  
  </div>  
};
```



React State Example: “Delete” Button

Create a state variable called `isLiked`, and a *state setter*, defaulting to `false`

```
function PersonalizedLikableDeletableHello (           props: { name: string, onDelete: ()=> void }           ) {   const [isLiked, setIsLiked] = useState(false);   let likeButton;   .....   return (     <div>       Hello, {props.name}! This is React! {likeButton}       <IconButton aria-label='delete' icon={<AiTwotoneDelete />} onClick={props.onDelete} />     </div>   ); }
```

onDelete prop of this button is connected to the onClick handler

Testing the “Delete” button

```
export function MultiHellos() {  
  const [names, setNames] = useState(["Ripley", "Avery", "Calin"]);  
  return (<div>  
    {names.map((eachName) => (  
      <PersonalizedLikableDeletableHello name={eachName}>  
        onDelete={()=> setNames(names.filter(  
          filteredName => filteredName !== eachName)) />  
    ))}  
  </div>  
)  
};
```

Hello, Ripley! This is React!



Hello, Avery! This is React!



Hello, Calin! This is React!



Testing the Delete AND Like Buttons

```
export function MultiHellos() {
  const [names, setNames] = useState(["Ripley", "Avery", "Calin"]);
  return (<div>
    {names.map((eachName) =>
      <PersonalizedLikableDeletableHello
        key={eachName}
        name={eachName}
        onDelete={() => setNames(names.filter((name) => name !== eachName))}
      />
    )}
  </div>
);}
```

! ▶ Warning: Each child in a list should  printWarning — react-jsx-dev-runtime.development.js:87
have a unique "key" prop.
Check the render method of `MultiHellos`. See <https://reactjs.org/link/warning-keys> for more information.
PersonalizedLikableDeletableHello@<http://localhost:3000/static/js/bundle.js:91:80>
MultiHellos@<http://localhost:3000/static/js/bundle.js:161:76>
App

Hello, Ripley! This is React!



Hello, Avery! This is React!



Hello, Calin! This is React!



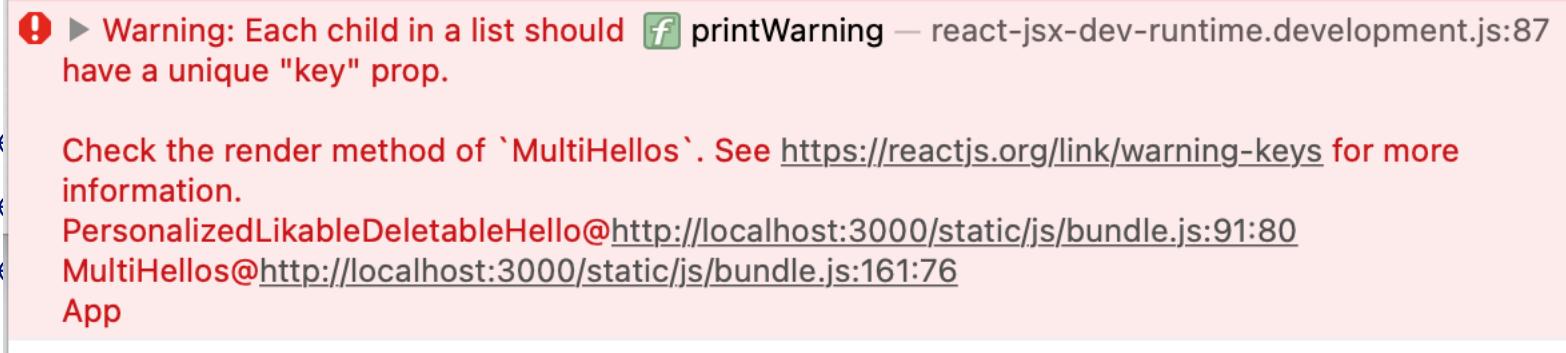
Reacting to change: How does the page update automatically?

- Re-rendering is *asynchronous*: do not happen immediately upon calling a state setter
- Reconciliation: Framework diffs the previously rendered DOM with the new DOM, updating only part of DOM that changed
- Updating the DOM in the browser is slow - it is *vital* that React does efficient diff'ing
 - Example: adding a new comment on a YouTube video shouldn't make the browser re-layout the whole page

Reconciliation Must Differentiate Updates from Deletions/Additions

Before deleting Ripley's Greeting:

```
<div>
  <PersonalizedLikableDele...
  <PersonalizedLikableDele...
  <PersonalizedLikableDele...
</div>
```



After deleting Ripley's Greeting:

```
<div>
  <PersonalizedLikableDeletableHello name="Avery" />
  <PersonalizedLikableDeletableHello name="Calin" /* isLiked=true */>
</div>
```



React processed this change as:
Ripley's greeting becomes Avery's greeting
Avery's greeting becomes Calin's greeting
Calin's greeting is deleted

Reconciliation with Keys

- Add the “key” attribute to each component in a list
- Keys must be unique
- React will use the “key” to determine which elements are added, deleted, or re-ordered when re-rendered

```
export function MultiHellos() {  
  const [names, setNames] = useState(["Ripley", "Avery", "Calin"]);  
  return (<div>  
    {names.map((eachName) => (  
      <PersonalizedLikableDeletableHello name={eachName}  
        key={eachName}  
        onDelete={()=> setNames(names.filter(filteredName => filteredName !== eachName))} />  
    ))}  
  </div>  
};
```

Write UI component tests just like any other test

Follow the generic testing model from Module 2:

- Assemble the situation:
 - Set up system under test (SUT) to get the state ready
 - [Optional: Prepare collaborators]
- Act - Apply the operation inputs.
- Assess - Check the outputs, verify the state change, handle the behavior

1: Render component into a testing DOM tree

2: Interact with the rendered component

3: Check the rendered result

UI Testing Libraries make Component Tests Lightweight

- Render components into a “virtual DOM”
 - Just like browser would, but no browser
- Interact with components by “firing events” like a user would
 - Click, enter text, etc. on DOM nodes, just like a user would in a browser
- Inspect components that are rendered
 - Tests specify how to “find” a component in that virtual DOM



“Testing Library”

<https://testing-library.com>

Compatible with many UI libraries
and many testing frameworks

Rendering Components in Virtual DOM

```
let deleteCalled = false;
beforeEach(() => {
  deleteCalled = false;
  render(
    <PersonalizedLikableDeletableHello name="Ripley"
      onDelete={() => { deleteCalled = true; }} /> );
});
```

- The *render* function prepares our component for testing:
 - Creates a virtual DOM
 - Instantiates our component, mounts it in DOM
 - Mocks all behavior of the core of React
 - Allows us to inspect the rendered result in the *screen* import

<https://testing-library.com/docs/react-testing-library/api#render>

Inspecting Rendered Components: By Text

SUT

```
return (
  <div>
    Hello, {props.name}! This is React! {likeButton}
    <IconButton aria-label='delete' icon={<AiTwotoneDelete />}
      onClick={props.onDelete} />
  </div>
);
```

Test

```
test("It renders the greeting", ()=>{
  const greeting = screen.getByText(/Hello, Ripley!/);
  expect(greeting).toBeInTheDocument();
})
```

First approach to inspect rendered components: match by text

Inspecting Rendered Components: ARIA label

SUT

```
if (isLiked) {  
  likeButton = (<IconButton aria-label="unlike"  
    icon={<AiFillHeart />} onClick={() => setIsLiked(false)} />) ;  
} else {  
  likeButton = (<IconButton aria-label="like"  
    icon={<AiOutlineHeart />} onClick={() => setIsLiked(true)} />) ;  
}
```

Test

```
test("Like button defaults to not liked, clicking it likes, clicking again  
unlikes", () => {  
  const likeButton = screen.getByLabelText("like");  
  fireEvent.click(likeButton);  
  const unLikeButton = screen.getByLabelText("unlike");  
  fireEvent.click(unLikeButton);  
  expect(screen.getByLabelText("like")).toBeInTheDocument();  
});
```

3 Tiers for Inspecting Rendered Components

- Queries that reflect how every users interacts with your app
 - byRole – Using accessibility tree
 - byLabelText – Using label on form fields
 - byPlaceHolderText – Using placeholder text on form field
 - byText – By exact text in an element
 - byDisplayValue – By current value in a form field
- Queries that reflect how some users interact with your app
 - byAltText – By alt text, usually not presented to sighted users
 - byTitle - By a “title” attribute, usually not presented to sighted users
- Queries that have nothing to do with how a user interacts with app
 - byTestId

More: <https://testing-library.com/docs/queries/about>

Testing Library Cheat Sheet

	No Match	1 Match	1+ Match	Await?
<code>getBy</code>	throw	return	throw	No
<code>findBy</code>	throw	return	throw	Yes
<code>queryBy</code>	null	return	throw	No
<code>getAllBy</code>	throw	array	array	No
<code>findAllBy</code>	throw	array	array	Yes
<code>queryAllBy</code>	[]	array	array	No

- Get and query have different behavior when there are different numbers of matches
- Find is *async* and will return a promise to wait for all rendering to complete

Review

- Now that you've studied this lesson, you should be able to:
 - Understand how the React framework binds data (and changes to it) to a UI
 - Create simple React components that use state and properties
 - Be able to map the three core steps of a test (construct, act, check) to UI component testing
- The next lesson will include a deep-dive on patterns of React, including useState and its friend, useEffect