

# Effects, Reducers & Context

Advanced, yet super-important  
Features!

## Module Content

Working with (Side) Effects

Managing more Complex State with Reducers

Managing App-Wide or Component-Wide State with  
Context



# What is an “Effect” (or a “Side Effect”)?

**Main Job: Render UI & React to User Input**

Evaluate & Render JSX  
Manage State & Props  
React to (User) Events & Input  
Re-evaluate Component upon State &  
Prop Changes

This all is “baked into” React via the “tools”  
and features covered in this course (i.e.  
useState() Hook, Props etc).

**Side Effects: Anything Else**

Store Data in Browser Storage  
Send Http Requests to Backend Servers  
Set & Manage Timers

...



# Handling Side Effects with the useEffect() Hook

```
useEffect(() => { ... }, [ dependencies ]);
```

A function that should be executed AFTER every component evaluation IF the specified dependencies changed

Your side effect code goes into this function.

Dependencies of this effect – the function only runs if the dependencies changed

Specify your dependencies of your function here



# Introducing useReducer() for State Management

Sometimes, you have **more complex state** – for example if it got **multiple states**, **multiple ways of changing** it or **dependencies** to other states



useState() then often **becomes hard or error-prone to use** – it's easy to write bad, inefficient or buggy code in such scenarios



useReducer() can be used as a **replacement** for useState() if you need **"more powerful state management"**



# Understanding useReducer()

```
const [state, dispatchFn] = useReducer(reducerFn, initialState, initFn);
```

The state snapshot used in the component re-render/ re-evaluation cycle

A function that can be used to dispatch a new action (i.e. trigger an update of the state)

The initial state

A function to set the initial state programmatically

`(prevState, action) => newState`

A function that is **triggered automatically** once an action is **dispatched** (via `dispatchFn()`) – it **receives the latest state snapshot** and **should return the new, updated state**.



# useState() vs useReducer()

Generally, you'll know when you need useReducer() (→ when using useState() becomes cumbersome or you're getting a lot of bugs/ unintended behaviors)

## useState()

The main state management "tool"

Great for independent pieces of state/ data

Great if state updates are easy and limited to a few kinds of updates

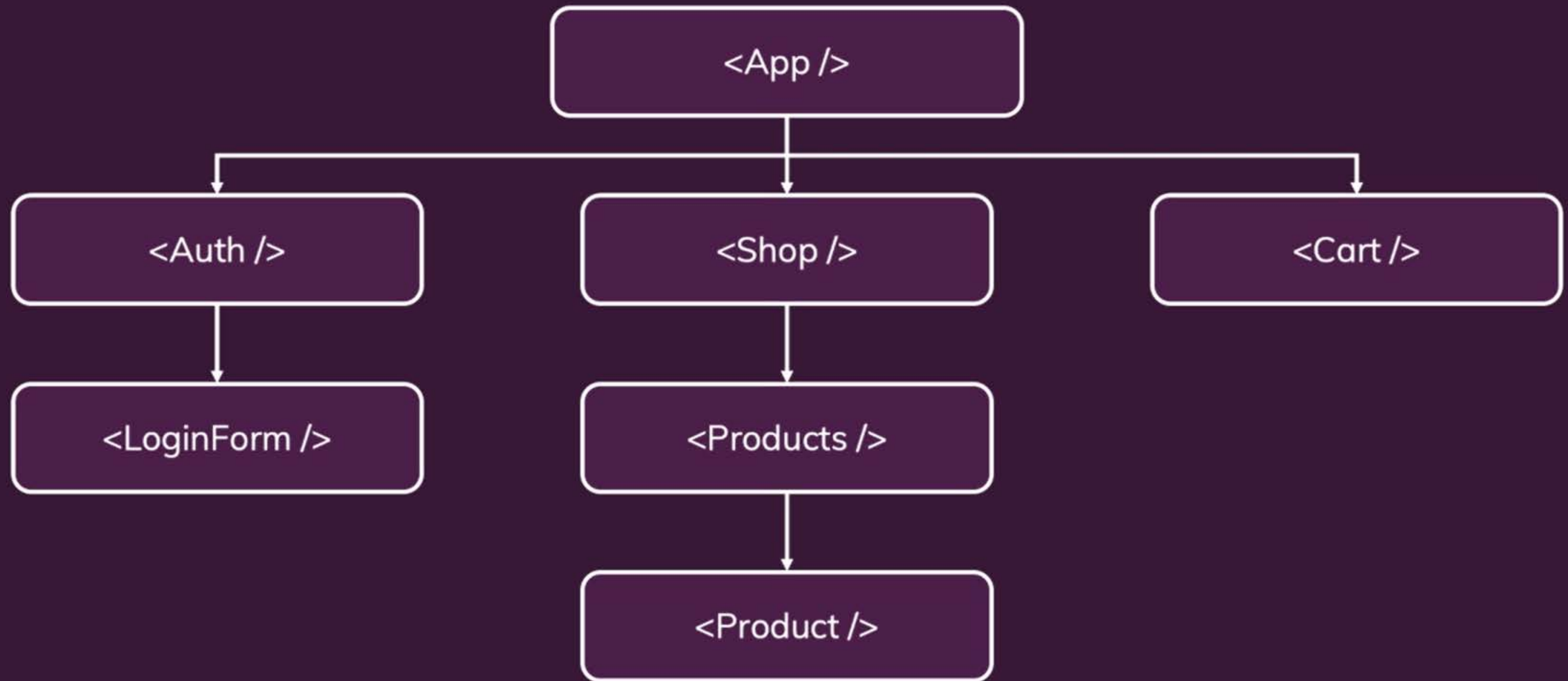
## useReducer()

Great if you need "more power"

Should be considered if you have related pieces of state/ data

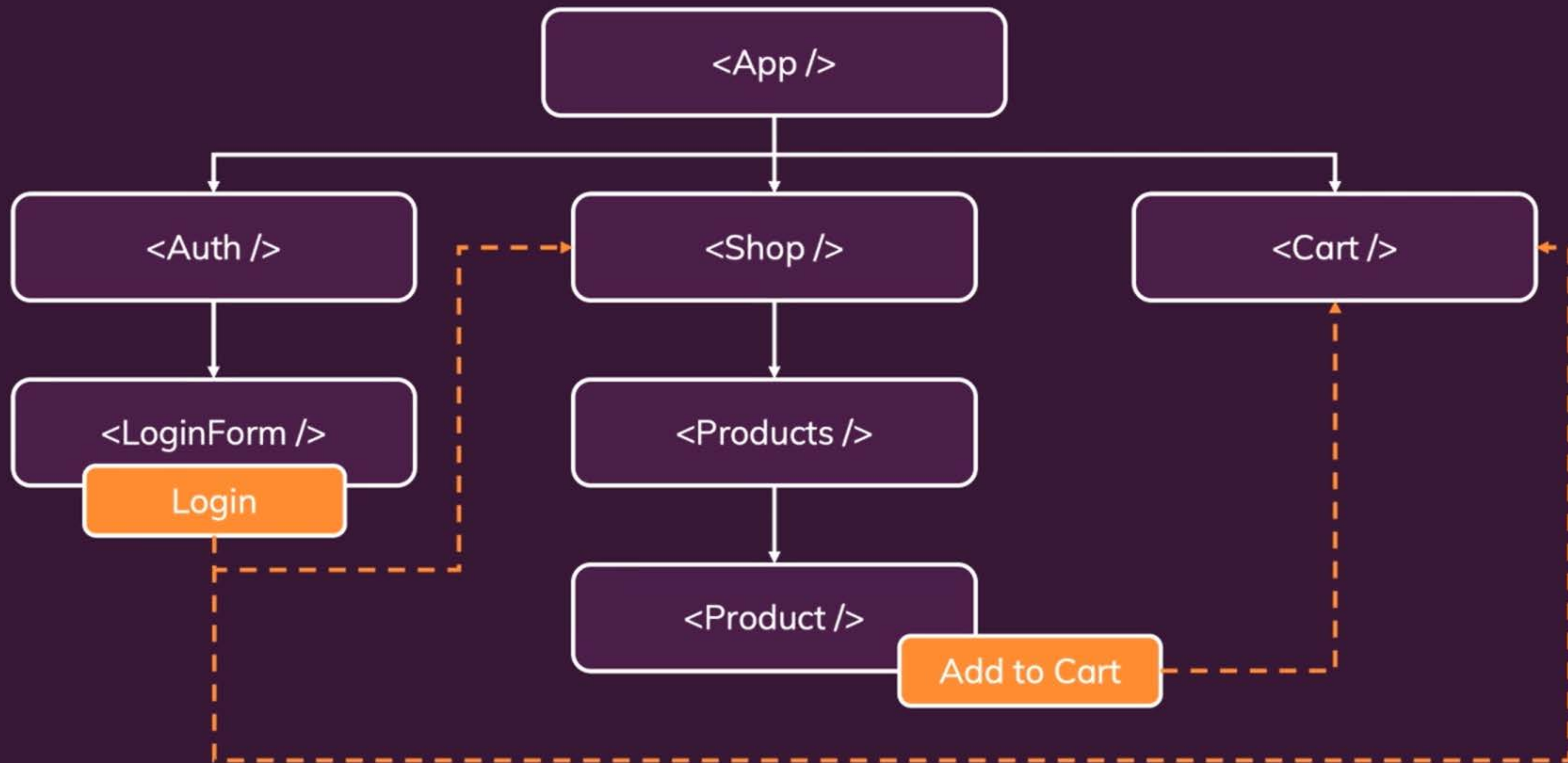
Can be helpful if you have more complex state updates

# Component Trees & Component Dependencies



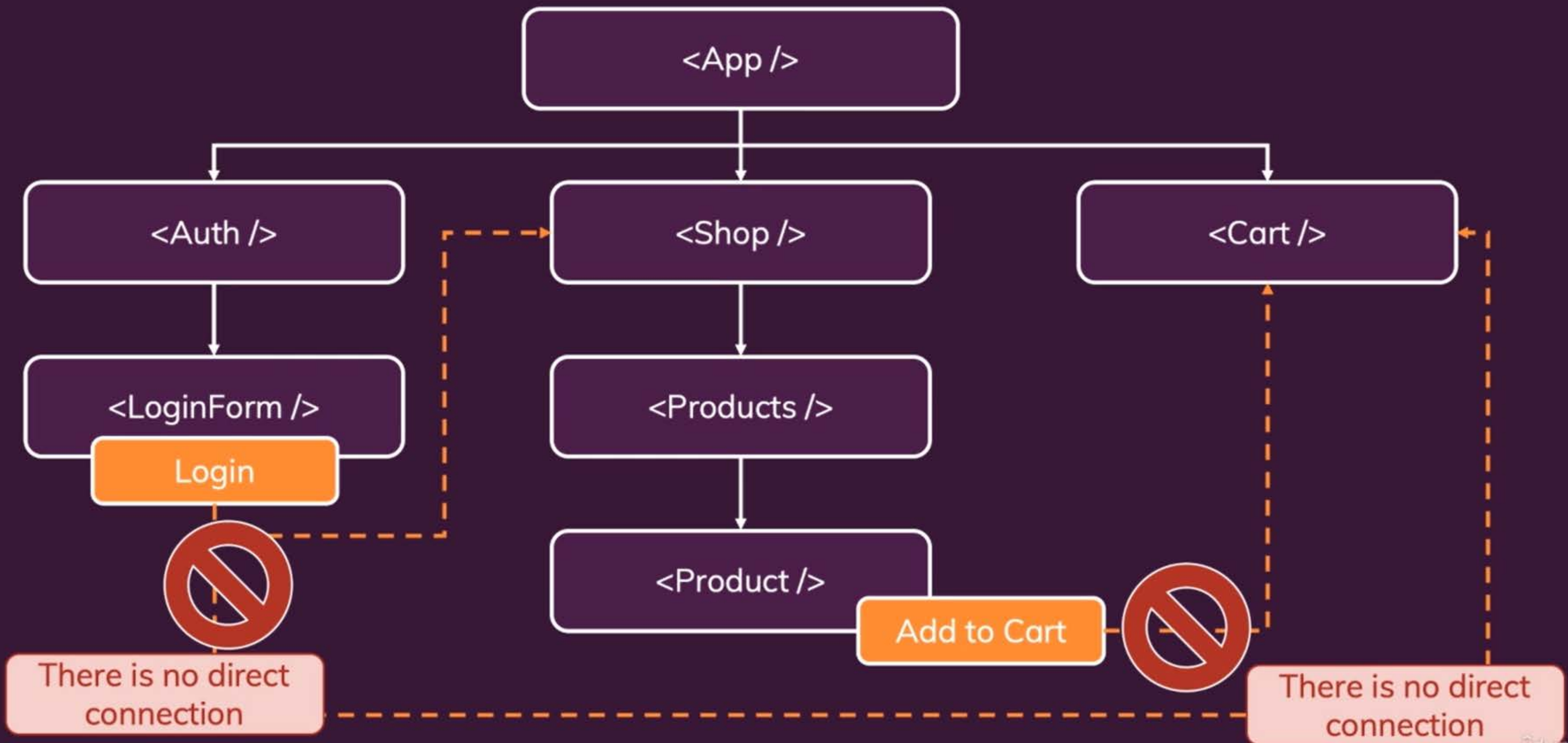


# Component Trees & Component Dependencies





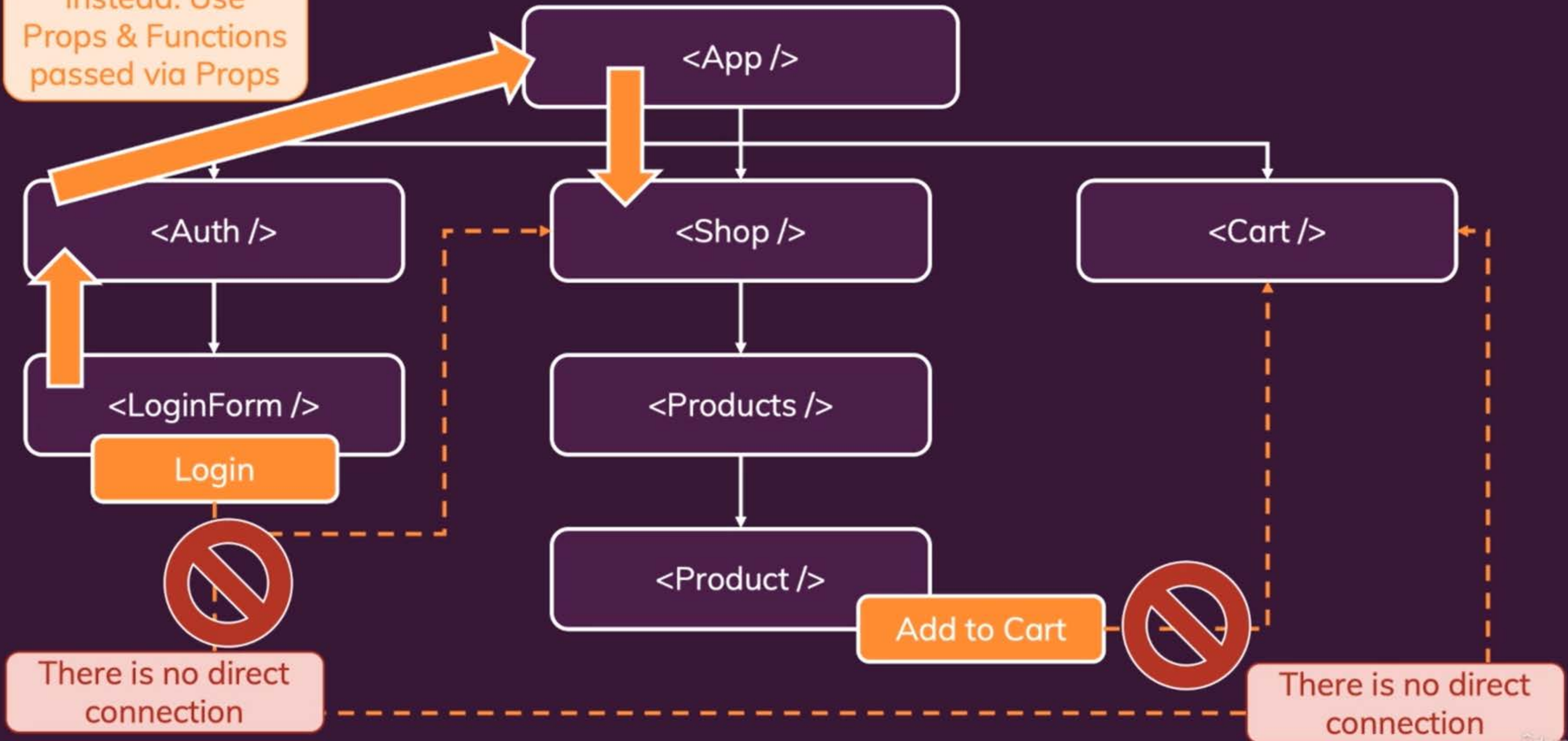
# Component Trees & Component Dependencies





# Component Trees & Component Dependencies

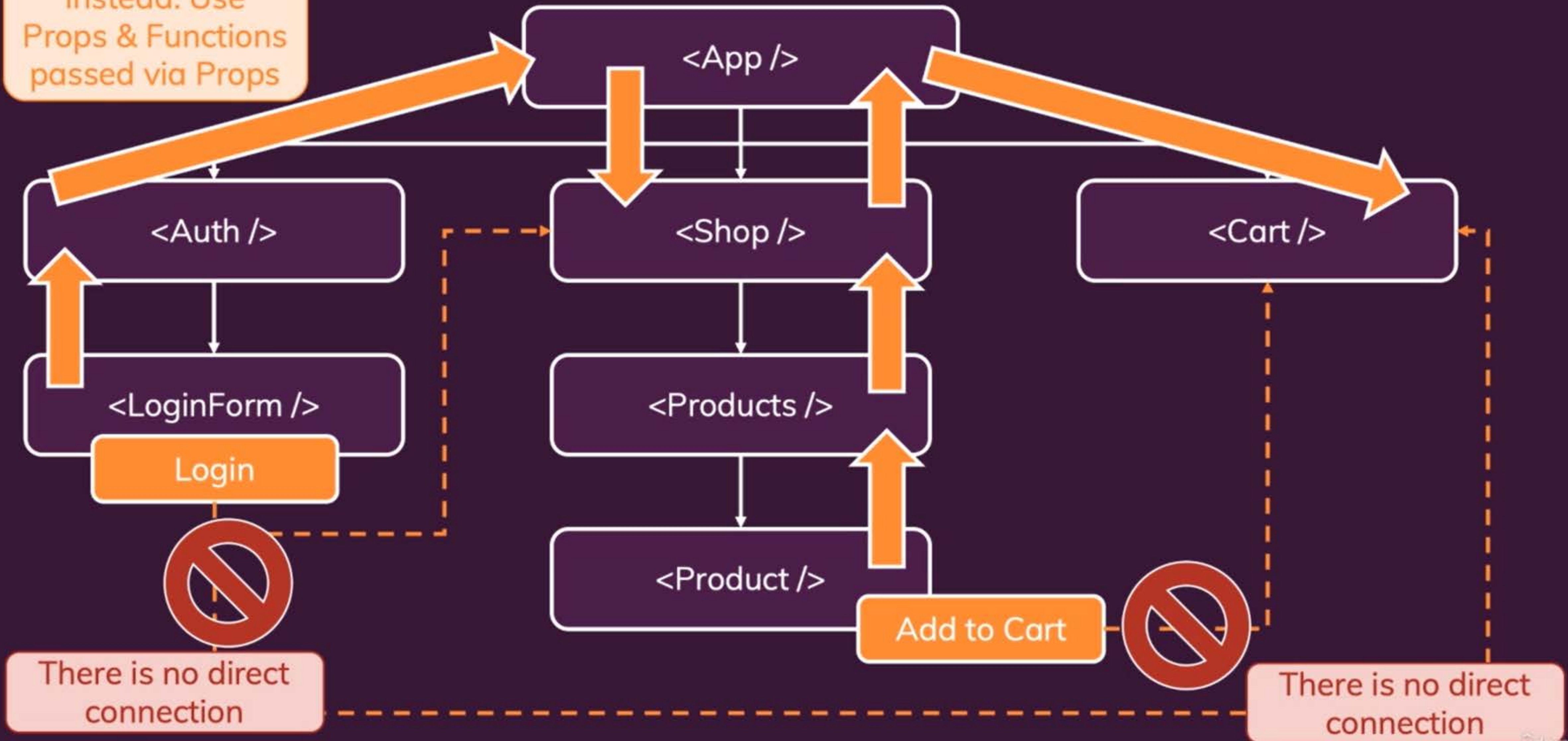
Instead: Use  
Props & Functions  
passed via Props





# Component Trees & Component Dependencies

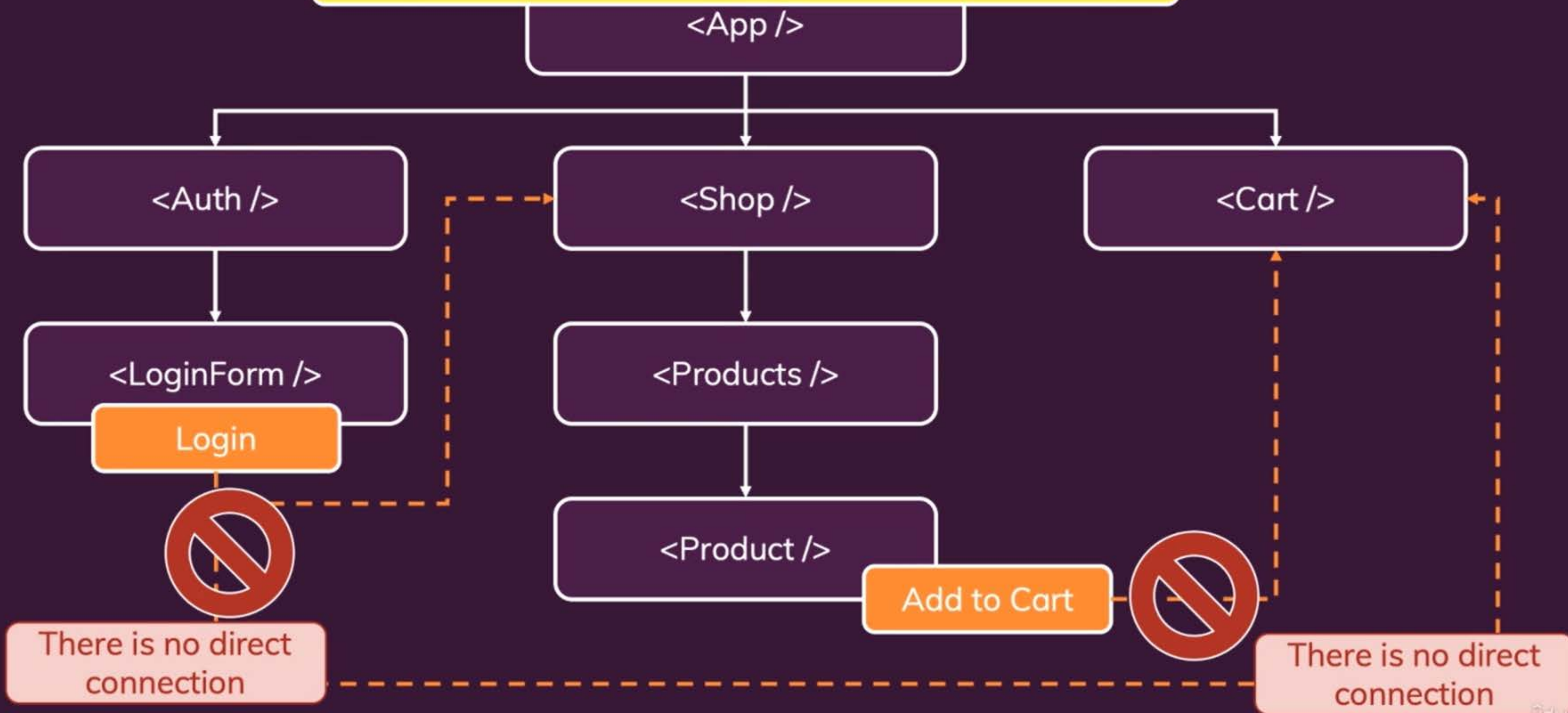
Instead: Use  
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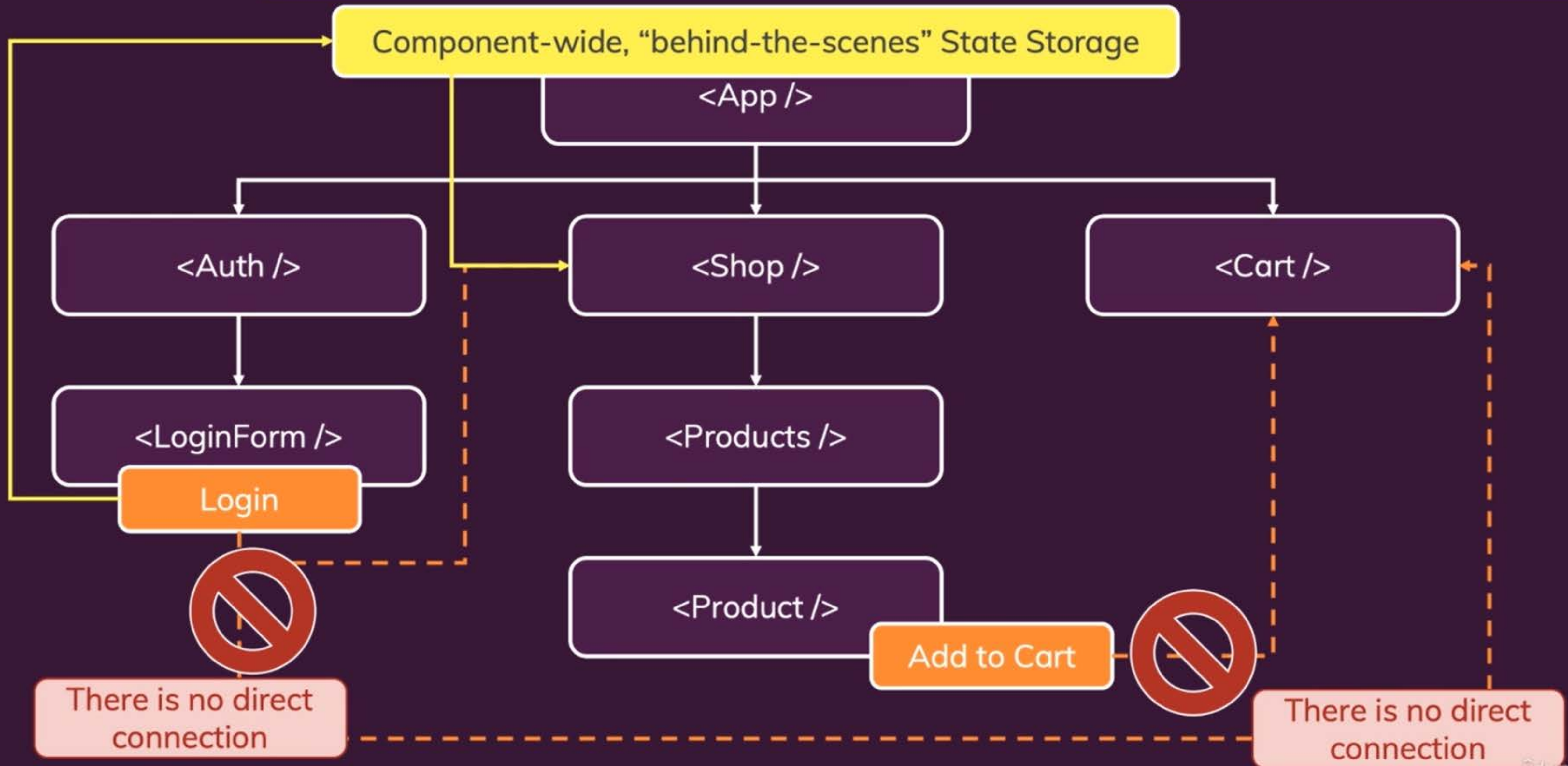
# Context to the Rescue!

Component-wide, "behind-the-scenes" State Storage



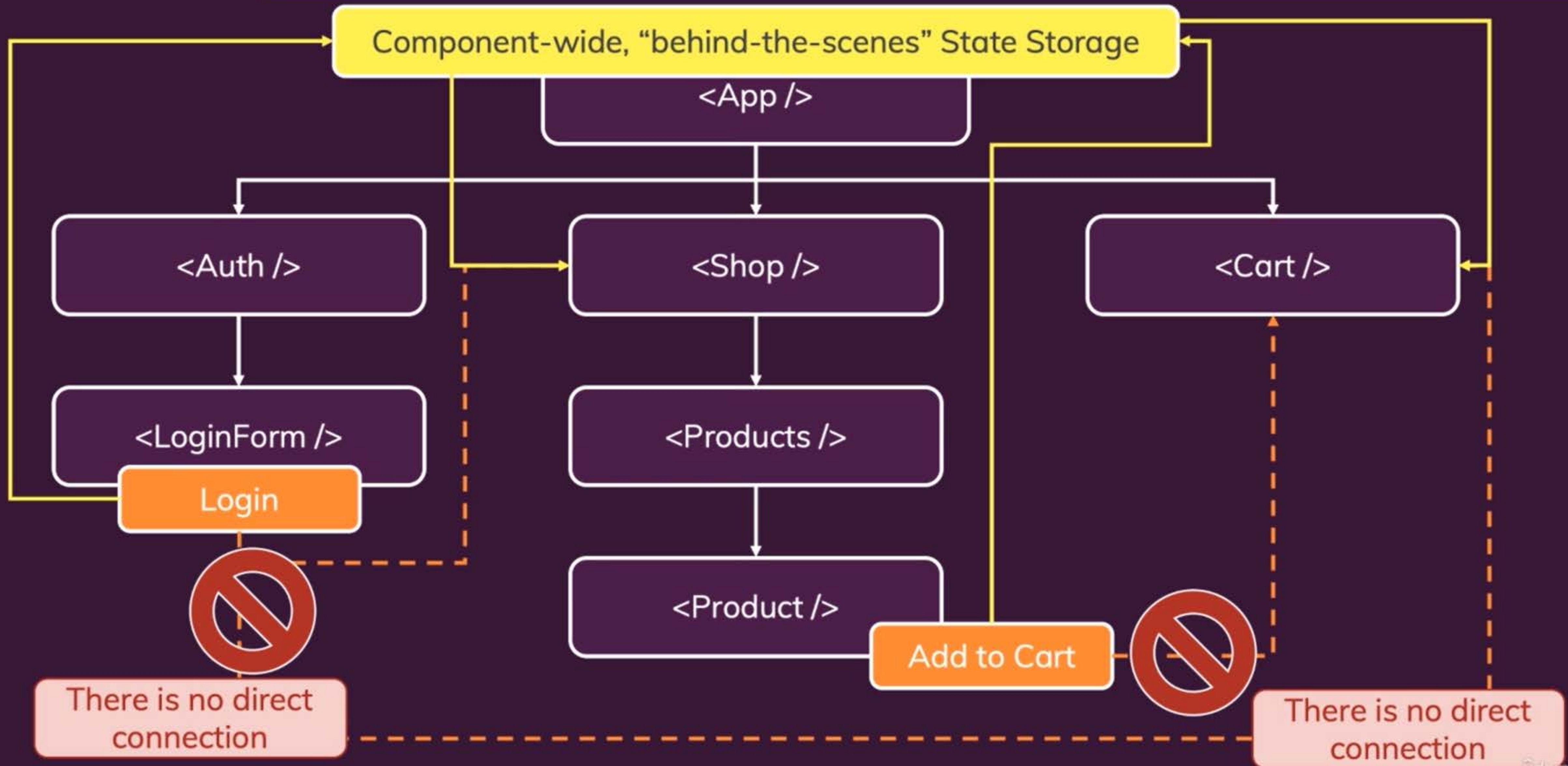


# Context to the Rescue!





# Context to the Rescue!





## Context Limitations

React Context is **NOT optimized** for high frequency changes!



**Closed** Provide more ways to bail out inside Hooks #14110  
gaearon opened this issue on 5 Nov 2018 · 135 comments

[Load more...](#)



sebookmarkage commented on 18 Dec 2018

Member ...

My personal summary is that new context is ready to be used for low frequency unlikely updates (like locale/theme). It's also good to use it in the same way as old context was used. I.e. for static values and then propagate updates through subscriptions. It's not ready to be used as a replacement for all Flux-like state propagation.

34

53 hidden items

[Load more...](#)



gaearon commented on 30 Jan 2019

Member Author ...

This discussion will be more productive if we have an actual code example we can discuss.

That said this discussion is also going in circles. I'm not sure it's helpful to keep reiterating the same points.

This is a "nice to have" request but it ties into many other questions around context. We won't likely address it in isolation but we can revisit it in about half a year and see where we are.

Ideally there could be a follow up issue focused on this particular request that also has a realistic demo that shows the problematic use case suffering from the performance problem. That would anchor the discussion. Thanks!



Jessidhia commented on 30 Jan 2019 • edited ▾

Collaborator ...



# Context Limitations

React Context is **NOT optimized** for high frequency changes!



We'll explore a better tool for that, later

React Context also **shouldn't be used to replace ALL** component communications and props



Component should still be configurable via props and short "prop chains" might not need any replacement



# Rules of Hooks

Only call React Hooks in **React Functions**

```
graph TD; A[Only call React Hooks in React Functions] --> B[React Component Functions]; A --> C[Custom Hooks (covered later!)]
```

React  
Component  
Functions

Custom Hooks  
(covered later!)



EXPLORERontext.jsJS Button.jsJS MainHeader.jsJS Home.jsJS Login.js

REACT-THE-COMPLETE-G...

Home

Home.jsHome.module...

Login

Login.js 1Login.module...

MainHeader

MainHeader.jsMainHeader....Navigation.jsNavigation.m...

UI

Button

Button.jsButton.mod...

Card

store

OUTLINETIMELINENPM SCRIPTS

src > components > Login > JS Login.js > [🔗] emailReducer

1import React, { useState, useEffect, useReducer, useContext } from 'react';

2

3import Card from '../UI/Card/Card';

4import classes from './Login.module.css';

5import Button from '../UI/Button/Button';

6import AuthContext from '../../store/auth-context';

7

8const emailReducer = (state, action) => {

9 useState();

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17};

18

(alias) useState<undefined>(): [undefined, React.Dispatch<(prevState: undefined) => undefined>] (+1 overload)

import useState

Returns a stateful value, and a function to update it.

@version — 16.8.0

@see — <https://reactjs.org/docs/hooks-reference.html#usestate>

React Hook "useState" is called in function "emailReducer" which is neither a React function component or a custom React Hook function. eslint(react-hooks/rules-of-hooks)

Peek Problem (⌘F8) Quick Fix... (⌘.)

PROBLEMS

Note that To create a production build, use npm run build.

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# Rules of Hooks

Only call React Hooks in **React Functions**

React  
Component  
Functions

Custom Hooks  
(covered later!)

Only call React Hooks at the **Top Level**

Don't call them  
in nested  
functions

Don't call them  
in any block  
statements



EXPLORERontext.jsJS Button.jsJS MainHeader.jsJS Home.jsJS Login.js

src > components > Login > JS Login.js > Login > useEffect() callback

HomeHome.jsHome.module...LoginLogin.js 1Login.module...MainHeaderMainHeader.jsMainHeader....Navigation.jsNavigation.m...UIButtonButton.jsButton.mod...Cardstore

OUTLINETIMELINENPM SCRIPTS

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```
    isValid: null,
  });

  const authCtx = useContext(AuthContext);

  useEffect(() => {
    console.log('EFFECT RUNNING');
    useContext();
    (alias) useContext<any>(context: React.Context<any>): any
    import useContext

    Accepts a context object (the value returned from React.createContext ) and returns
    the current context value, as given by the nearest context provider for the given context.

    @version — 16.8.0
    @see — https://reactjs.org/docs/hooks-reference.html#usecontext

    React Hook "useContext" cannot be called inside a callback. React
    Hooks must be called in a React function component or a custom
    React Hook function. eslint(react-hooks/rules-of-hooks)

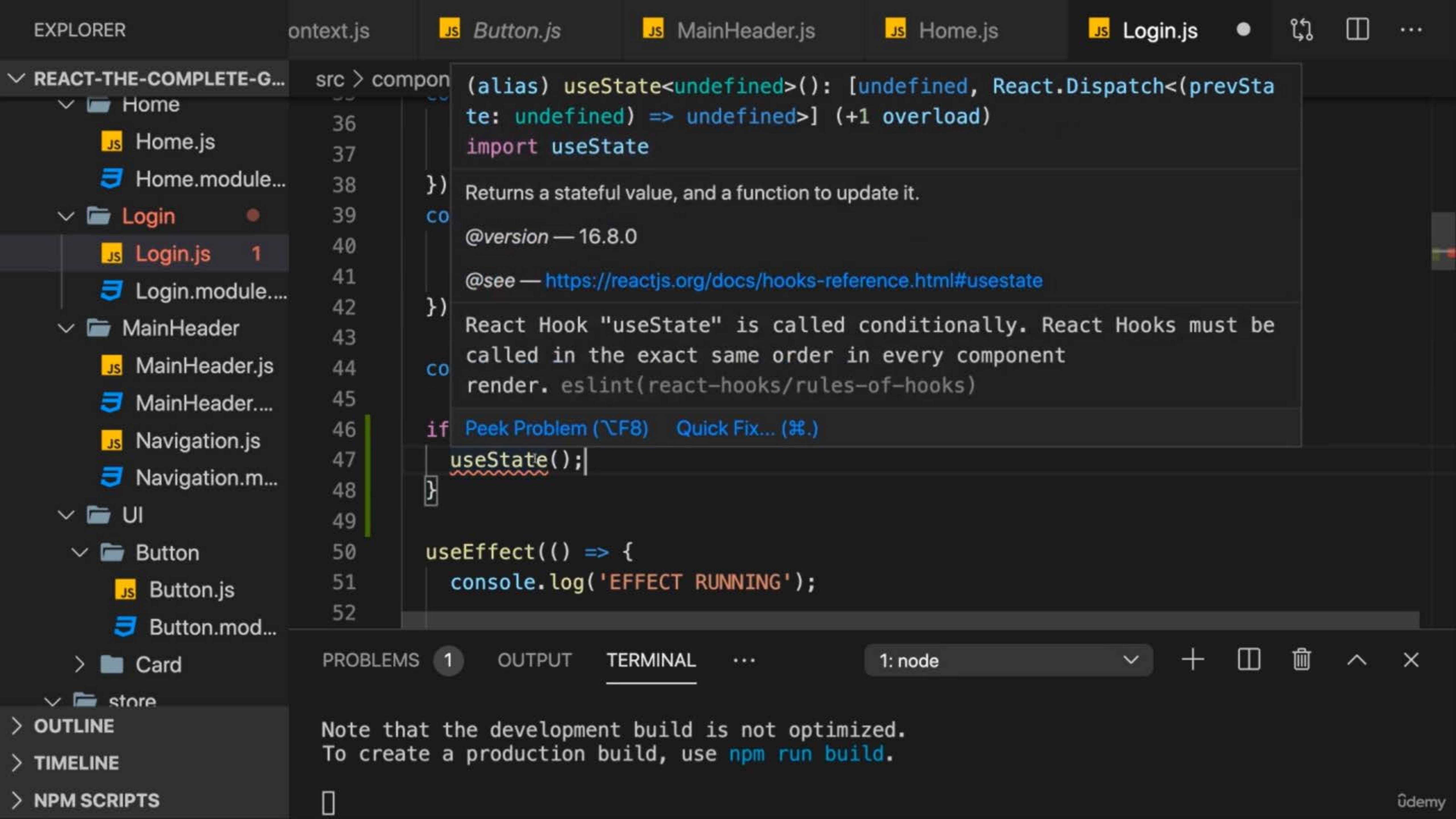
    Peek Problem (⌘F8) Quick Fix... (⌘.)
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PROBLEMS 1

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ontext.js

JS Button.js

JS MainHeader.js

JS Home.js

JS Login.js



REACT-THE-COMPLETE-G...

Home

JS Home.js

Home.module...

Login

JS Login.js 1

Login.module...

MainHeader

JS MainHeader.js

MainHeader....

JS Navigation.js

Navigation.m...

UI

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Button.mod...

Card

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```
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}) Returns a stateful value, and a function to update it.
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```
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```

```
@see — https://reactjs.org/docs/hooks-reference.html#usestate
```

```
}) React Hook "useState" is called conditionally. React Hooks must be  
co called in the exact same order in every component  
render. eslint(react-hooks/rules-of-hooks)
```

```
if Peek Problem (⌘F8) Quick Fix... (⌘.)
```

```
useState();
```

```
useEffect(() => {  
  console.log('EFFECT RUNNING');
```

PROBLEMS

1

OUTPUT

TERMINAL

...

1: node



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# Rules of Hooks

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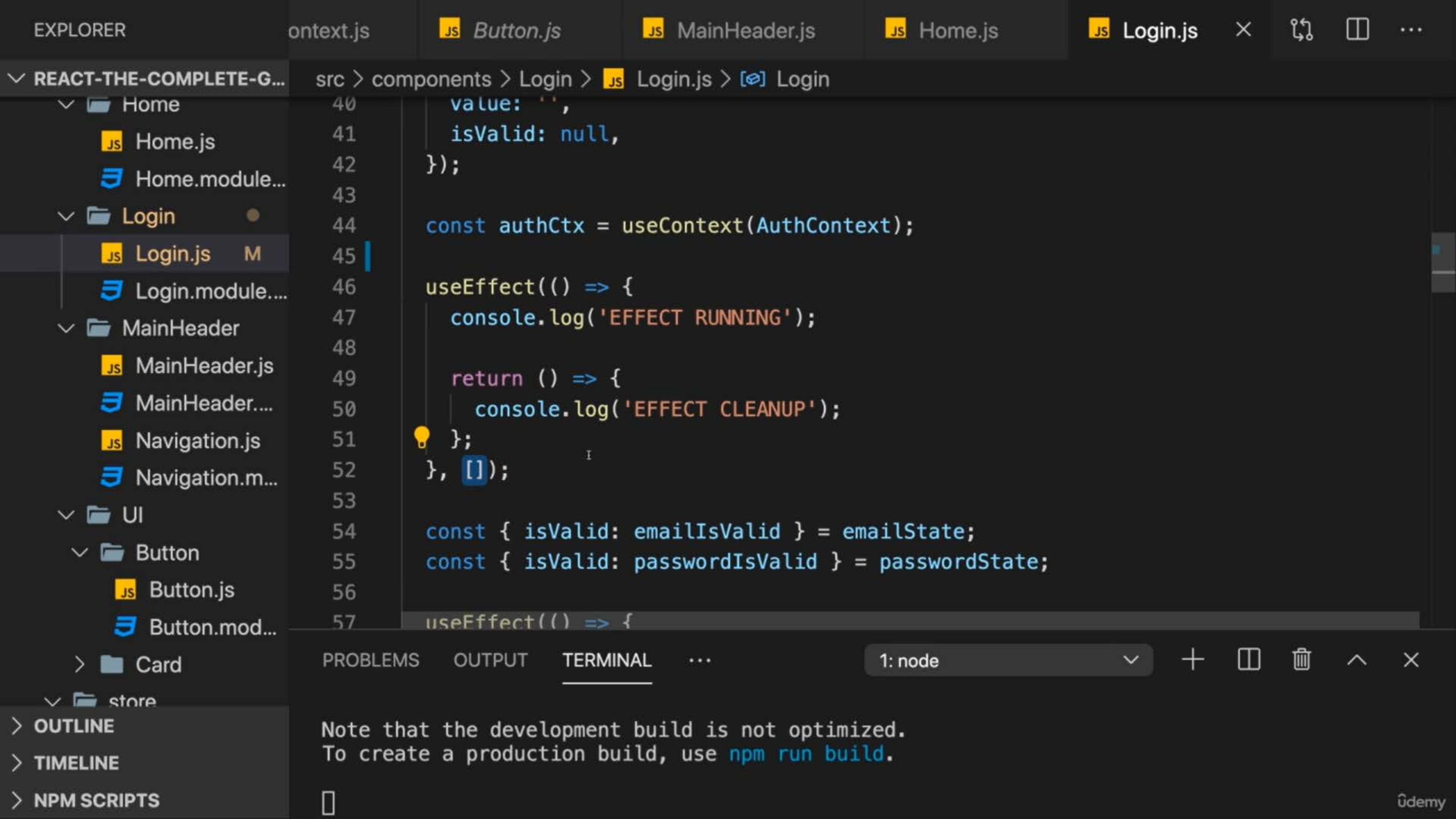
Only call React Hooks at the **Top Level**

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+ extra, unofficial Rule for **useEffect()**: ALWAYS add everything you refer to inside of `useEffect()` as a dependency!







EXPLORERontext.jsJS Button.jsJS MainHeader.jsJS Home.jsJS Login.js

src > components > Login > JS Login.js > Login > useEffect() callback

JS Home.jsHome.module...LoginLogin.js MLogin.module...MainHeaderMainHeader.jsMainHeader....Navigation.jsNavigation.m...UIButtonButton.jsButton.mod...Cardstore

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```
const { isValid: emailIsValid } = emailState;
const { isValid: passwordIsValid } = passwordState;

useEffect(() => {
  const identifier = setTimeout(() => {
    console.log('Checking form validity!');
    setFormIsValid(emailIsValid && passwordIsValid);
  }, 500);

  return () => {
    console.log('CLEANUP');
    clearTimeout(identifier);
  };
}, [emailIsValid, passwordIsValid]);

const emailChangeHandler = (event) => {
  dispatchEmail({ type: 'USER_INPUT', value: event.target.value });
```

PROBLEMSOUTPUTTERMINAL

1: node

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OUTLINETIMELINENPM SCRIPTS

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EXPLORER

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JS Button.js

JS MainHeader.js

JS Home.js

JS Login.js

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Login.module....

MainHeader

JS MainHeader.js

MainHeader....

JS Navigation.js

Navigation.m...

UI

Button

JS Button.js

Button.mod...

Card

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PROBLEMS

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TERMINAL

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> OUTLINE

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> NPM SCRIPTS

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EXPLORERontext.jsJS Button.jsJS MainHeader.jsJS Home.jsJS Login.js

src > components > Login > JS Login.js > Login

JS Home.js57

Home.module...58

Login59

JS Login.js 1, M60

Login.module....61

MainHeader62

JS MainHeader.js63

MainHeader....64

JS Navigation.js65

Navigation.m...66

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JS Button.js69

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Card71

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```
useEffect(() => {
  const identifier = setTimeout(() => {
    console.log('Checking form validity!');
    setFormIsValid(emailIsValid && passwordIsValid);
  });
  const emailIsValid: any

  React Hook useEffect has a missing dependency: 'passwordIsValid'.
  Either include it or remove the dependency array. eslint(react-
  hooks/exhaustive-deps)

  }, [emailIsValid]);

const emailChangeHandler = (event) => {
  dispatchEmail({ type: 'USER_INPUT', val: event.target.value });

  // setFormIsValid(
  //   event.target.value.includes('@') && passwordState.isValid
```

PROBLEMS1OUTPUTTERMINAL

1: node

> OUTLINE

> TIMELINE

> NPM SCRIPTS

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